

## GASOLINE INQUIRY UP TO U. S. BOARD

Investigations to Be Handled  
Exclusively by Federal  
Trade Commission.

ALL SECTIONS CHARGE  
PRICE DISCRIMINATION

Data to Be Sought to Determine  
Whether Present High Cost to  
Consumers Is Reasonable.

Investigations to determine the reasons for the high cost of gasoline will be handled exclusively by the federal trade commission, according to an announcement made by that body yesterday afternoon. Several investigations now are being conducted by the commission to gather data which will enable it to tell whether the present high prices are reasonable.

In addition the commission is attempting to handle a number of complaints from all parts of the country charging discrimination in the price of gasoline. These matters are being handled directly by Commissioner Harris. The first complaints and the greater number of them came from the south, before Congress convened Director Harris and a corps of assistants had gone to the southern states to make an investigation of the violations of the so-called Clayton act, which is the price discrimination statute.

Hearings Considered Probable. This side of the gasoline price problem is considered by the commission to be a comparatively simple one compared with the investigations to determine whether the price charged is reasonable. Whether the commission will give hearings on the price discrimination phase of the problem has not yet been determined, but it seems probable that it will.

Much information on which the commission could base a decision as to whether the price of gasoline is high already is in the hands of the body, having been collected by the interstate commerce commission and the bureau of corporations. This information includes a report on conditions in the Haddon oil fields recently issued by the trade commission, the report of the interstate commerce commission covering the cost of pipe-line construction and transportation problems in the eastern field.

A report dealing with pipe line and transportation conditions with regard to the oil industry in the so-called mid-continent fields soon will be issued by the commission.

Additional Data Needed.

The only matter which the commission then needs to help it in reaching a decision, it is announced, is data on refining and marketing costs. Many questions enter into the consideration of the latter problem, including the determination as to whether more crude oil is being produced now than last year or in previous years; whether the oil is as productive of gasoline as it was in former years, and other related problems. The question of labor cost, as well as depreciation of machinery used in the refining, also may be taken into consideration, it was pointed out.

The charges of price discrimination in the matter of gasoline now are receiving the consideration of Commissioner Harris, who but recently returned with his corps of agents from the territory in the south. The complaints came from farmers, manufacturers, automobile owners and others who use gasoline. As these cases are considered by the commission as comparatively simple compared with the other investigations connected with the gasoline problem, they will be disposed of as soon as possible.

It is probable that Commissioner Harris' report on his investigation will be made public within the next two or three weeks.

Statement by Commission.

Notice of the commission's determination to handle the whole gasoline problem was given in the following statement issued by the body yesterday:

"The federal trade commission today announced that the Department of Justice was referring to it for investigation complaints received by the department having to do with the increase in the prices of gasoline. Before this session of Congress the Department of Justice inquired of the federal trade commission whether it was conducting investigations into conditions in the petroleum and oil trade, stating that if so it would refer these matters to it for attention.

"The federal trade commission stated that it had been conducting these investigations pursuant to congressional direction, under the resolutions of Senator Gore, Senator Owen and Senator Chilton, and that it would be pleased to investigate any of the complaints referred to it by the Department of Justice so desired. The federal trade commission and the Department of Justice are keeping closely in touch on the matter."

CRUDE PETROLEUM HIGHER.

Uniform Increase of Ten Cents a

Barrel in Southern Fields.

BEAUMONT, Tex., January 8.—A uniform rate advance of 10 cents a barrel on crude petroleum in the Texas and Louisiana fields was announced today.

This is the second advance this week. The quotations posted provide for the following prices: "Edgely," 70 cents a barrel; Spindle Top, 80, and Jennings, Sour Lake, Vinton, Humble, Saratoga and Jackson, 85 cents.

THE AQUEDUCT BRIDGE.

Prompt Action to Avert Disaster Is Imperative.

To the Editor of The Star:

For the last five years or more reports have been regularly made by competent men to the effect that the Aqueduct bridge is not safe. Now, there are just two things possible: Either it is true or it is not true. If the expert opinions rendered are not considered of such weight as to establish the absolute fact they have at least sufficient weight to put everybody on notice. There is somebody, or should be somebody, whose duty it is to take notice under such circumstances.

If the final authority is not satisfied with the quality of the reports, it is his or their duty to employ such experts as are deemed sufficiently qualified to determine the actual condition beyond any reasonable doubt.

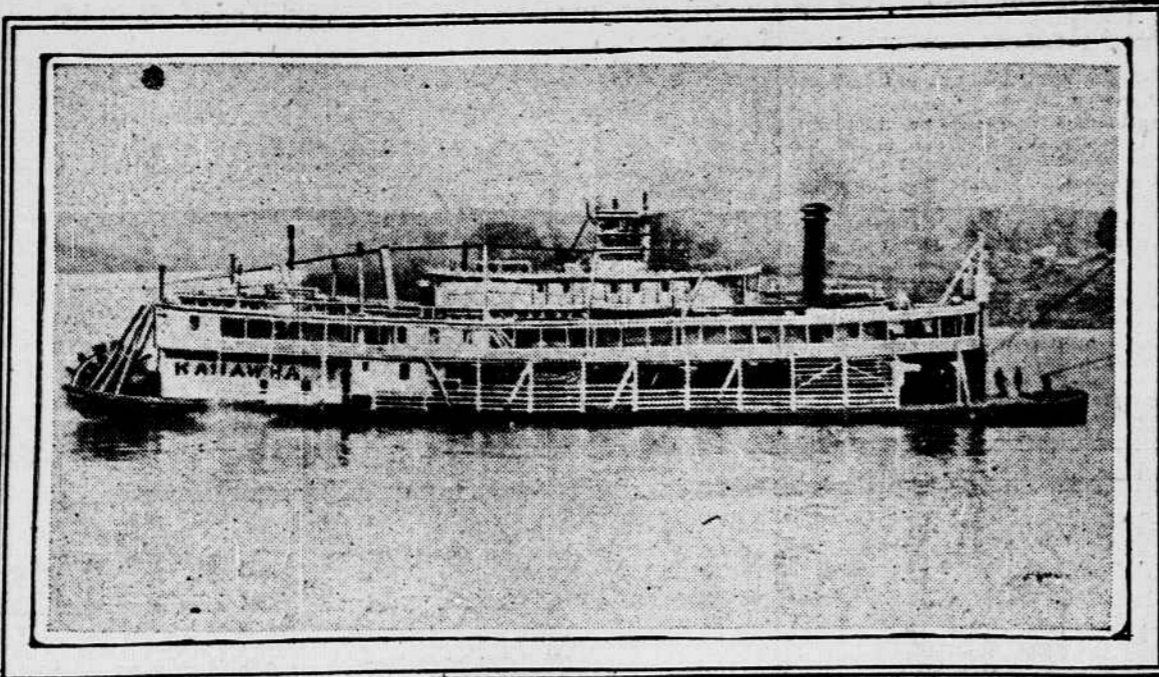
If the reports furnished in the past are sufficiently reliable—and it seems there is little doubt about it, since they are all of the same tenor—then it is time to fix the responsibility right now ante mortem. We, who have to cross the bridge several times a day during the winter, are interested in the proceedings instituted presently to relieve the apprehension, rather than in the goat that may be sent into oblivion after our interest ceases.

As stated, there is grave doubt as to the condition of the bridge. It is imperative that the absolute facts be found. If a sufficient safety factor is found to exist, all well and good. If not, then it would be very little less than criminal negligence on the part of somebody to continue such condition.

ALFRED BURGER.

Maywood, Va.

## STEAMER KANAWHA, WHICH SANK IN THE OHIO RIVER WITH SIX WASHINGTONIANS ABOARD.



## TO PREVENT MUZZLING OFFICERS OF THE NAVY

Recent Action by Secretary Daniels Basis of Request by Representative Britten.

Secretary Daniels' recent refusal to permit Rear Admiral Knight or Rear Admiral Fiske to speak in Chicago on the navy program has been made the basis of a request by Representative Britten of Illinois before the House naval committee that action be taken to "prevent any attempt on the part of the Secretary to muzzle naval officers appearing before the committee or to assign officers to distant posts beyond the practical reach of the committee."

"Democratic members challenged the basis for the intimation and Mr. Britten replied that Admiral Fiske had been granted thirty days' leave on condition that he not talk or write on preparedness."

The committee took no action on the request.

DEPARTMENT RIFLE CLUB.

To Be Formed by Labor Employees Friday Night.

Employees of the Department of Labor have taken steps to form a rifle club. A meeting to perfect the organization will be held with Lieut. Albert S. Jones, secretary of the association, at the National Rifle Association of America Shooting Academy, 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue, next Friday evening.

During the past week the two local civilian rifle clubs competed in the third of the series of eleven matches in the Interclub League. The District of Columbia Rifle Association, the older club, shot against the Buffalo, N. Y. Rifle Club, and lost its match by only two points. Buffalo made 978, and the District club 976. The scores of the District men follow: Mr. Murphy, 195; Mr. McGarity, 198; Mr. Alderman, 197; L. L. Johnston, 185, and Mr. Holt, 187.

The Washington Rifle Association, the newer club, composed of men who attended the Plattsburg business men's camp last summer, shot against the Taunton, Mass., Indoor Rifle Club, an organization of long standing and having crack rifle shots. In this match the District club lost by only twelve points, the Taunton club making 968 to 956 by the Washington club. The scores of the Washington members follow: Mr. Breckenridge, 196; Mr. Miles, 193; Mr. Howe, 191; Mr. Lehr, 189, and Mr. Tuckerman, 187.

The Franco-Prussian war lasted from July, 1870, to May, 1871.

## Painting a Picture on a Mental Canvas

Are you one of those millions of American citizens who are loath to think of the President of the United States as a working man, a business man—one whose days are made up largely of self-application to cold, sordid facts of a workaday world? Then read

## "How Presidents Work"

It is one of the many intensely interesting stories woven about official life at the White House by

Oliver Owen Kuhn

In his exhaustive work on the American government, entitled

## "Uncle Sam, Esq.,"

"Presidents and Cabinets"—"Presidents and Congress"—"Presidents and Foreign Countries"—"Presidents at Play"—"Home Life of Presidents"—"Religious Life of Presidents"—"Guarding a President"—"Presidential Secretaries"—"Presidents in Society."

These are but a few of the many subjects to be treated in the special series of articles on the executive branch of federal activities.

## "Uncle Sam, Esq."

Will Start in

The Evening Star

Tomorrow

## PLAN A SHARP ADVANCE ON RANKS OF ALCOHOL

Prohibition Advocates Expect Webb Resolution to Be Favorably Reported.

Prohibition advocates in Congress are looking forward to a sharp advance on the ranks of alcohol within sixty days, when it is believed the Webb resolution to make the country dry by constitutional amendment will have been reported favorably to the House. Representative Webb, chairman of the judiciary committee, expresses himself as hopeful of a majority report from his committee in favor of the resolution. He does not expect the committee will simply report it to the House without favorable or unfavorable comment, as was done in the previous session.

Special Rule to Be Sought.

The procedure after the resolution is on the calendar has been causing talk in the House. A special rule will be asked for, by which the resolution will become privileged and can be taken up for an immediate vote.

The liquor and anti-liquor fight will squeeze itself into the narrow limits of the rules committee, and, of course, every attempt possible will be made to keep the special rule from being granted.

There does not seem to be the same fear of voting on the liquor resolution in this Congress as there was in the last, and its friends believe that the resolution will receive forty more votes than it did a year ago.

## PLANS FOR A MEMORIAL TO BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Seth Low, Former Mayor of New York, Scheduled for Principal Address.

Plans are being completed for a national memorial meeting to be held in honor of the late Booker T. Washington at Metropolitan A. M. E. Church January 16, at 3 p. m. A committee of about fifty is in charge, headed by Henry Lassiter, with B. W. Thompson as secretary and Daniel Freeman as treasurer.

Seth Low, former mayor of New York

## CLEAN UP—PAINT UP CAMPAIGN STARTS

Plans for District Activity in Spring Receive Impetus at Decorators' Meeting.

Plans for a District-wide clean-up and paint-up campaign for the spring were launched at the regular meeting of the Master House Painters' and Decorators' Association recently, when the organization voted \$200 from its treasury to the fund for promoting the campaign. Members of the association also pledged substantial contributions and unqualified support for the coming clean-up and paint-up campaign, which it was announced, is to be a part of a national campaign embracing more than 5,000 cities and towns in all parts of the country.

At the meeting, general satisfaction was expressed by those who were active in last spring's clean-up and paint-up campaign, and short talks were made by a number of the master house painters, and by others who spoke of the advantages to the city of a systematic plan for beautification of property, and of the substantial benefits following such a campaign as that of last spring.

Heads National Movement.

A. H. McGhan, who was at the head of last spring's clean-up and paint-up committee, is now chairman of the national committee of the Master House Painters' and Decorators' International Association, having in charge the national clean-up and paint-up propaganda. At the January meeting, held in the local association's rooms in the Corcoran building, Mr. McGhan was again made chairman of the local committee. Reports from the national headquarters of the clean-up and paint-up movement, in St. Louis, were read, showing that the national committee has raised more than \$25,000 to be used this spring in spreading the gospel of clean up and paint up.

At the meeting, a number of solicitors were appointed to canvass for pledges to the fund needed for carrying on the local campaign. The solicitors were given credentials in the form of a letter signed by W. F. Andrews, president of the local organization of master painters, in which the support of all Washingtonians interested in the

clean-up and paint-up campaign is solicited. The letter states that the movement has the support and endorsement of the District Commissioners, practically all of the civic associations of the District, the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, the press of the city, and, in fact, the entire community.

Other Local Signatures.

In addition to the signature of President Andrews, the letter is signed by H. W. Taylor, secretary of the local association, and A. H. McGhan, chairman of the clean-up and paint-up committee.

At the meeting, in addition to perfecting plans for the clean-up and paint-up campaign, the following officers of the local association were elected for the ensuing year: President, W. F. Andrews; vice president, Henry P. Amos; treasurer, George E. Russell;

secretary, H. W. Taylor; trustees, William Martin Cleland, L. Barr and Henry P. Amos.

BIG DEMAND FOR HORSES.

Entente Allies Buy Total of 195,000 in St. Louis.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., January 8.—One hundred and ninety-five thousand horses have been bought at the National stock yards here by the entente allies, it is announced today by S. T. Jones, president of the stock yards company. The total expenditure has been approximately \$34,000,000, he said. British buyers have discontinued purchases here, but French, Italian and Belgian officers are buying about 300 horses a day.

Sidney B. Williamson Resigns.

Secretary Lane has accepted the resignation of Sidney B. Williamson, chief of construction of the reclamation service, with headquarters at Denver, Col., to take effect March 1. Mr. Williamson is leaving to take charge of construction work in Chile.

Military Training for Cubans.

President Wilson has recommended that Congress authorize the appointment of Rene W. Pinto y Wentworth to the West Point Academy, and Carlos Hevia y Reyes Gavilan to the Annapolis Academy as an act of courtesy to Cuba.

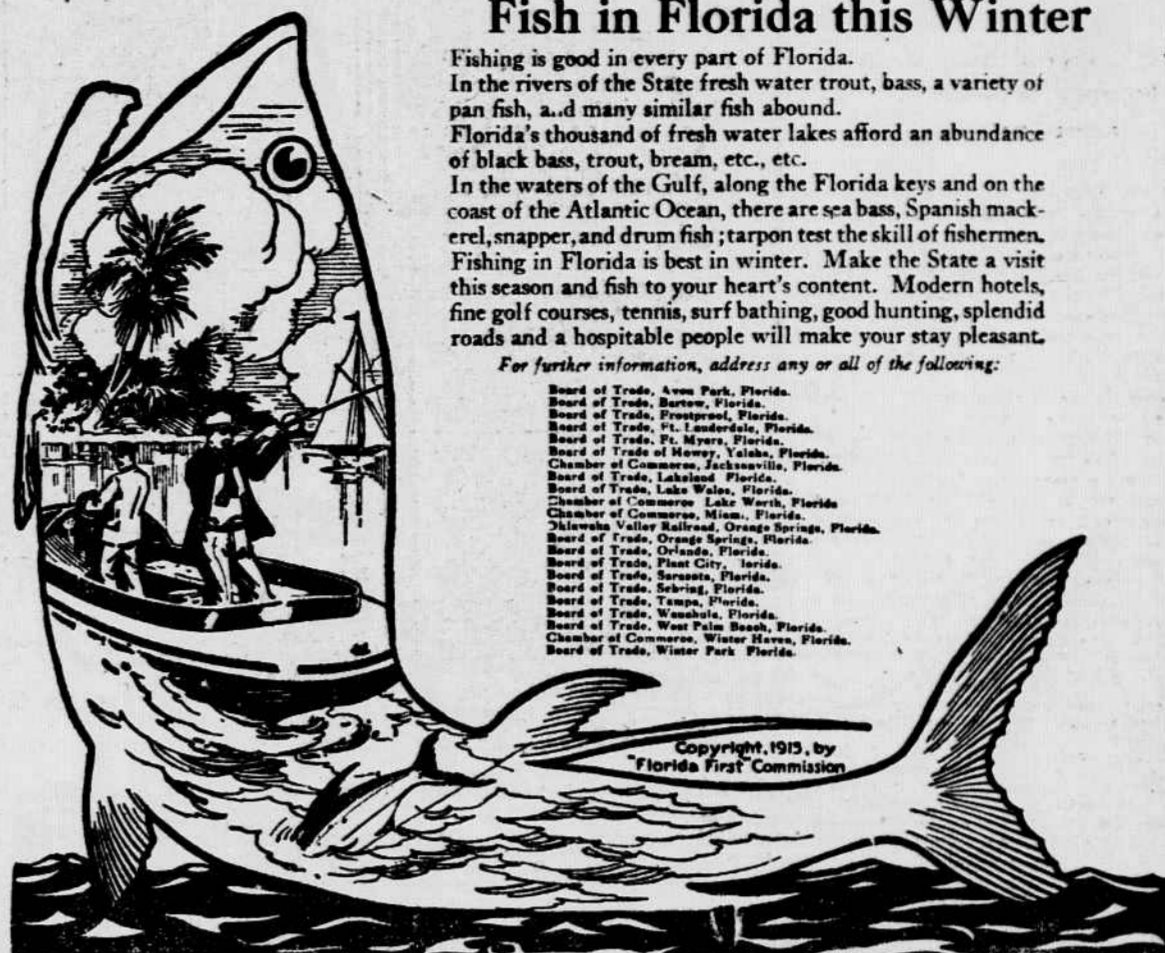
If it's RED TOP RYE it's right.

## Fish in Florida this Winter

Fishing is good in every part of Florida. In the rivers of the State fresh water trout, bass, a variety of pan fish, and many similar fish abound. Florida's thousand of fresh water lakes afford an abundance of black bass, trout, bream, etc., etc. In the waters of the Gulf, along the Florida keys and on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, there are sea bass, Spanish mackerel, snapper, and drum fish; tarpon test the skill of fishermen. Fishing in Florida is best in winter. Make the State a visit this season and fish to your heart's content. Modern hotels, fine golf courses, tennis, surf bathing, good hunting, splendid roads and a hospitable people will make your stay pleasant.

For further information, address any or all of the following:

Board of Trade, Avon Park, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Bartow, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Bradenton, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Ft. Myers, Florida.  
Board of Trade of Hialeah, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Jacksonville, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Lake Wales, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Lakeland, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Orlando, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Palm Bay, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Palm Beach, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Sebring, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Tampa, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Winter Park, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Winter Haven, Florida.  
Board of Trade, Winter Park, Florida.



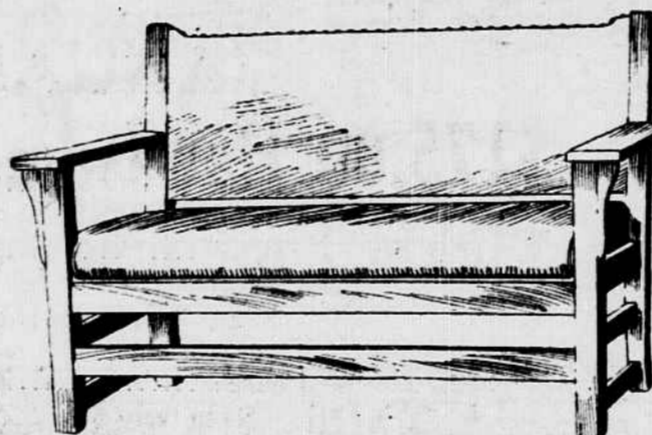
Julius Lansburgh Furniture Co., 9th Below F

# 2-DAY REDUCTION SALE

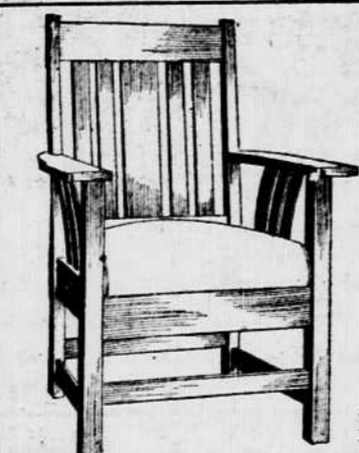
## High-Grade Furniture & Lace Curtains

Monday and Tuesday you are offered an opportunity to buy the furniture and curtains you need for the home at a legitimate reduction on regular prices, with the privilege of easy payments.

This \$60 Settee, \$35



Fumed oak of best grade—upholstered in brown Spanish leather.



This \$14.00 Library Armchair \$8.00

Of fumed oak with Spanish leather seat—guaranteed upholstery.

This \$15.00 Library Armchair, \$8.50

Of fumed oak—Spanish leather seat—guaranteed upholstery.



This \$40.00 Extension Table \$28.00

Solid oak—Jacobean design—48-inch top.

Lace Curtains Reduced --for-- Two Days



14 pairs (3 handsome designs) Irish Point Laces. Marked to sell for \$10.00. Special to close this lot, pair ..... \$6.80

11 pairs (2 designs only) Heavy Irish Point Laces. These were \$12.00 curtains. Special, per pair... \$7.15

6 pairs Handmade Arabian Laces; heavy 9-inch border. Marked to sell for \$20.00. Special to close, pair ..... \$11.85

14 pairs Handmade Arabian Laces (3 handsome designs). Marked to sell for \$15.00. Special, per pair ..... \$9.40

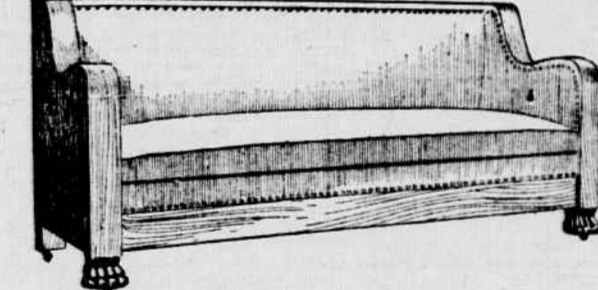
1 lot Marquisette and Scrim Curtains; heavy cluny edge. Special, per pair ..... \$1.75

23 pairs Real Cluny Lace Curtains; edge and insertion; per pair... \$2.90

33 pairs Real Scotch Laces; 7 very handsome effects; both floral and colonial. Regular \$5.50 value. Special, pair ..... \$3.25

47 pairs Renaissance Silk Curtains; insertion and braid. Marked at \$3.00. Special, pair ..... \$2.00

This \$90 Davenport, \$55



Colonial design—of golden oak or mahogany—upholstered in Spanish leather.

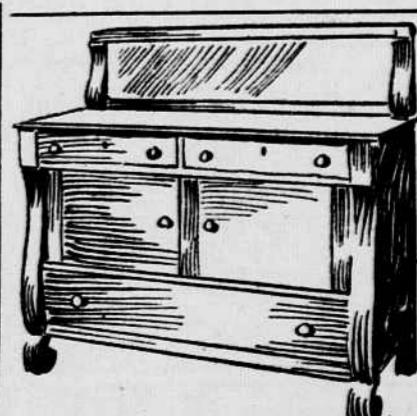
This \$100.00 Chiffonier, \$50.00

Only one—solid mahogany—Louis XVI design.



This \$70.00 Dresser, \$50.00

Only one left—of solid mahogany—Louis XVI design.



This \$35.00 Buffet, \$22.40

Of solid quartered oak—elegantly finished.

9 JULIUS LANSBURGH 9th Below F FURNITURE

"What We Say It Is, It Is"